



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
Walla Walla District

Lucky Peak Dam and Lake

Location: This project is located on the Boise River, about 10 miles southeast of the city of Boise, Idaho.

In-Service Date: June 1955

Normal Operating Pool: 3,055 feet MSL

Reservoir Storage Capacity: 306,000 acre-feet

Authorization: The project was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1946.

Progress: Construction of Lucky Peak Dam began in 1949. It was dedicated June 23, 1955.

Project: The project includes the dam, Lucky Peak Lake, federally owned lands managed by the Corps, and operational and recreational facilities. The project provides flood control, fish and wildlife habitat, irrigation and recreation. Since 1961, \$661,552,000 in potential flood damages have been prevented.



Lucky Peak Dam: The dam is a rolled earthfill dam about 250 feet above the streambed and 1,700 feet long at the crest. The spillway, located on the left abutment, has a 600-foot-long, free-overflow concrete ogee crest. The outlet works, located in the left abutment, consist of a

23-foot-diameter tunnel with six slide gates and one hollow jet valve. There are two 10-foot by 23-foot Broome-type emergency gates located in the intake tower.



Reservoir: Upstream of Lucky Peak Dam is a storage reservoir, Lucky Peak Lake. The lake, at normal full pool (elevation 3,055 feet MSL), is 12 miles long. It has 45 miles of shoreline and 3,019 acres of surface area. The reservoir provides a total storage capacity of 306,000 acre-feet at pool elevation 3,060 feet MSL.

Power generation: A license to construct and operate power facilities

at the project was issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to the Boise Project Board of Control, a non-federal interest, on June 10, 1980. The power house facility includes a visitor center, reconstruction of the outlet and construction of a second outlet, and the mitigation and enhancement of recreation and operation facilities. The power-production project was dedicated on Oct. 7, 1988. Seattle City Light, under an agreement with the Boise Project Board of Control, operates and maintains the power facility. The three generators are capable of producing a total of 101.25 megawatts of electricity.

Lands: There are 4,288 acres of public lands surrounding Lucky Peak Lake. These include fee lands that are federally-owned and managed by the Corps, as well as easement lands to which the Corps has specific rights or easements (*i.e.*, flowage or access). There are 4,079 acres of Corps-managed lands that are used for public recreation, wildlife habitat and operation purposes. The State of Idaho operates Lucky Peak State Park at three locations on Lucky Peak Lake. Other recreation areas are operated by the Corps. The dam and its facilities lie within the Idaho Department of

Fish and Game's Boise River Wildlife Management Area, the major game range in the state. The State of Idaho has developed wildlife habitat especially for mule deer on project lands. Corps Recreation facilities at Lucky Peak Lake consist of 20 day-use areas, four boat launch ramps and three swimming areas. The fiscal year 2005 visitation to Lucky Peak Lake was 774,863.



People: Less than 10 full-time Walla Walla District employees work at Lucky Peak Dam and Lake. They serve as park rangers, natural resource specialists, administrative staff and maintenance workers. Temporary employees augment the staff during high-visitation months. Together, they ensure the safe and continuous operation of the dam and its facilities. The staff also manages a volunteer program to help maintain and make improvements to Lucky Peak Lake's numerous public recreation facilities.

Budget: During fiscal year 2005, total expenditures were about \$2 million for the Lucky Peak Project.

References: Annual Report of the Chief of Engineers on Civil Works Activities, Fiscal Year 2005, Department of the Army Corps of Engineers, Extract Report of the Walla Walla District.

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